



FRIDAY NIGHT FACTS

Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor

Paula Parker-Sawyers, Executive Director

A Periodic Publication for Indiana AmeriCorps* Programs and Community Service Partners
April 13, 2006 Volume 6, Issue 9



Welcome to Friday Night Facts ! The Governor's Conference on Service and Volunteerism far exceeded our expectations. We ended up with over 700 people in attendance for the conference and 500 people for the Awards Dinner. We are tabulating the evaluations right now but the response from participants indicates that we provided quality programming in a quality setting. There is still room for improvement, so we will review in detail the results of the evaluation to determine how we can present a conference next year that responds to the constructive criticism we received. Hopefully, if you did not attend this year, you can make room in your calendar to do so in 2007.

As promised, this week's Friday Night Facts begins a series of articles about a potential Pandemic Flu outbreak. We hope that you find this informational helpful. Have a great week!

Open Federal Grant Opportunities

From time to time, our office will become aware of grant opportunities that may be time sensitive. When this occurs, they will be included in our Friday Night Facts and not our monthly issue of Funding Opportunities. The following are two grant opportunities in which the **deadline is May 2nd**.

Workforce Investment Act—Small Grassroots Organizations Connecting with the One-Stop Delivery System

Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration announced a \$4 million grant competition for grassroots faith-based and community organizations to help underserved populations prepare for and succeed in employment opportunities. Applicant organizations are expected to create their program in conjunction with their local One-Stop Career Center. Applicants must provide a Letter of Intent or Memorandum of Understanding signed by the One-Stop describing the anticipated partnership. (Announcement: www.doleta.gov/sga/sga.cfm)

Residential Re-entry Program

The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) has released a solicitation through www.fedbizopps.gov inviting faith-based and community organizations to submit proposals to expand the Life Connections pilot program to include up to six new site institutions for the provision of single-faith, residential re-entry programs at one or more pilot site institutions. The purpose of the residential re-entry program is to facilitate personal transformation for the participating inmates, and thereby reduce recidivism through promoting the virtues of productive work, respect for others, self-worth, responsibility, and accountability. (Solicitation: <http://www.fbo.gov/spg/DOJ/BPR/PPB/RFP-NAS-0171-2006/SynopsisP.html>)

Sweeping Federal & State Policy Changes:

Investing in Hoosiers or Sacrificing Their Future?

Keynote Speaker: Executive Director, Debbie Weinstein, Coalition on Human Needs

The Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homeless Issues (ICHHI) and other sponsors are hosting a special event to discuss the federal budget and TANF Reauthorization on Indiana and proposed state policy changes and their affect on low-income Hoosiers. The event will conclude by discussing how we can make a difference and steps we can take to improve policies and programs for all Hoosiers!

When: Friday, April 21, 2006, Event 9 am - 3 pm

Where: North United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, Lower Level
3808 North Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN

Cost: \$10, lunch and materials included (If fee is prohibitive please contact ICHHI).

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 18! If you do not RSVP by the 18th we cannot guarantee lunch or materials.

To view the full agenda visit: www.ichhi.org or www.ichsonline.org

Third Annual O'Bannon Institute for Community Service

On April 27 and 28, Ivy Tech Community College - Bloomington will host the Third Annual O'Bannon Institute for Community Service on the Bloomington campus. This year's theme is "If Not Government, Who?" and focuses on the effects changing government funding and resources has on social services in our communities.

Thursday, April 27 includes a low-cost fundraising dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Bloomington Convention Center for the Ivy Tech Center for Civic Engagement, featuring former Wyoming Sen. Alan Simpson (\$35/dinner ticket, \$50/ticket for dinner and reception with Sen. Simpson beginning at 5 p.m.).

Friday, April 28 is FREE! - and includes the O'Bannon Institute panel discussions, lunch, and the annual O'Bannon Conversation featuring a local media personality and a special guest who has demonstrated a commitment to service in their life. This year, former Gov. Joe and First Lady Maggie Kernan will be in attendance.

General schedule for Friday, April 28

9:30 a.m. - Panel One: ***Running on Empty: The Government's Role in Providing Social Services in an Elastic Economy.*** Panelists include various not-for-profit representatives from Bloomington and Central Indiana.

10:45 a.m. - Panel Two: ***Pray or Pay?: The Role of Faith-Based Institutions in Providing Social Services.*** Moderated by OFBCI's Executive Director, Paula Parker-Sawyers.

11:45 a.m. Awards Lunch (provided for O'Bannon Institute attendees).

1:00 p.m. - Panel Three: ***Picking up the Ball and Running with It: The Best Practices of Non-Governmental Organizations.*** Panelists include representatives of the American Red Cross and USA Fund for UNICEF.

2:15 p.m. - *O'Bannon Conversation* with Gov. Joe and former First Lady Maggie Kernan

Reservations can be made for one or both days by contacting Gretchen Bass in the Chancellor's Office at Ext. 6001 or by e-mail at gbass1@ivytech.edu.

Hotel Accommodations

Hotel accommodations are available at the Courtyard by Marriott (attached to the Bloomington Convention Center) at a room block rate of \$89 per night (812-335-8000). There are also rooms reserved at the Fairfield Inn at \$69 per night (812-331-1122). Please make your reservations at the Marriott by April 18th, or at the Fairfield Inn at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions, please contact John Zody, Director of Civic Engagement at Ivy Tech - Bloomington, at jzody@ivytech.edu or (812) 330-6037. Ivy Tech - Bloomington is located at 200 Daniels Way, on Bloomington's west side.

Medicare Outreach Program Schedule

Lilly volunteers will be at the following locations to distribute information about Rx for Indiana and Medicare Part D.

Monday:	April 17 9:30 – 11 AM	Brentwood Assisted Living Center 2002 Andrew Avenue LaPorte, IN 46250
Saturday:	April 29 10 – 3:30 PM	Light of the World Christian Church 4646 N. Michigan Road Indianapolis, IN 46228



The 2006 Senior Health Celebration will be held on April 20th at the Washington Square Mall, 10202 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis, 46229, from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.



Pandemic Flu Prep

This week's segment contains general questions and answers. If you would like further information, please visit <http://www.pandemicflu.gov>



What is influenza pandemic? An influenza pandemic is a global outbreak of disease that occurs when a new virus appears or "emerges" in the human population, causes serious illness, and then spreads easily from person to person worldwide. Past pandemics have led to high levels of illness, death, social disruption, and economic loss.

How is an influenza pandemic different from a normal influenza outbreak? Seasonal outbreaks of influenza are caused by subtypes of influenza viruses that are already in existence among people, whereas pandemic outbreaks are caused by new subtypes or by subtypes that have never circulated among people or that have not circulated among people for a long time. Also, pandemics do not necessarily occur during what is considered the "normal" influenza season.

When will the next influenza pandemic occur? It is impossible to predict when the next pandemic will occur, but many scientists believe it is only a matter of time. The last pandemic was the 1968-69 Hong Kong flu, which caused about 34,000 deaths in the U.S.

How can an influenza pandemic be avoided? It is nearly impossible to avoid another influenza pandemic. Instead, plans must be developed to be as prepared as possible when a pandemic begins.

Are we prepared for an influenza pandemic? Plans for responding to the next influenza pandemic are being developed at the state, federal, and even international levels. These plans deal with a variety of issues to determine how to make best use of available resources to protect people from infection, to care for patients, and to limit the spread of infection as much as possible.

How many people could die in Indiana in an influenza pandemic? The severity and death rate of any influenza pandemic is impossible to predict ahead of time.

Is there a vaccine available? A vaccine probably would not be available in the early stages of a pandemic, or would be available in very limited amounts. When a new vaccine against an influenza virus is being developed, scientists around the world work together to select the virus strain that will offer the best protection against that virus, and then manufacturers use the selected strain to develop a vaccine. Once a potential pandemic strain of influenza virus is identified, it usually takes at least six months before a vaccine will be widely available. If a pandemic occurs, it is expected that the U.S. government will work with many partner groups to make recommendations to guide the early use of vaccine.

Can antiviral medications be useful during a pandemic? Four influenza antiviral medications (amantadine, rimantadine, oseltamivir, and zanamivir) are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the treatment and/or prevention of influenza. However, only oseltamivir appears to be effective against the H5N1 influenza virus strains currently circulating in Asia. Supplies of antiviral medication are likely to be limited and insufficient to meet the demand.

Are there enough resources available to handle an influenza pandemic? An influenza pandemic would require a large-scale response, both in terms of personnel and material resources. A great deal of work is being done now to develop and plan for those resources, and to identify where and how they will be accessed.

What quarantine/isolation orders will be issued during an influenza pandemic? The severity of the pandemic would determine if any such orders would need to be issued. However, the State Health Commissioner does have the authority to take such action if it is deemed to be necessary. Local Health Officers also have similar authority at the local level.

How can people protect themselves? The same steps that individuals can take to protect themselves from seasonal outbreaks of influenza will also be critical during a pandemic. Those steps include frequent and thorough hand washing and various "respiratory hygiene" practices such as covering your mouth when you sneeze or cough. It will also be important for people to stay home from work or school while ill and to seek medical advice and care as well.
